[Mr. Joseph Panjikaran.]

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Vaikam* cum *Ettumanur*): May I know what the rule is with regard to the import duty in British India?

PRESIDENT: Are you asking about the exemption from duty, Mr. Ramakrishna Pillai?

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Vaikam* cum *Ettumanur*): May I know whether these pictures are exempt from import duty in British India?

PRESIDENT: The tariff is the same both for British India and Travancore and the rates and immunity must be also the same.

Arms Rules.

132. MR. JOSEPH PANJIKARAN (*Shertallai*): What steps have the Government taken to carry out the resolution regarding Arms Rules moved by Mr. Kunjitomman and passed by the Council on the 6th Medam, 1098?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The matter is still engaging the attention of Government.

MR. JOSEPH PANJIKARAN (*Shertallai*): Can the Government point out any action on their part which will go to show that the matter is still engaging the attention of the Government?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There is the reply of the Government that the matter is engaging their attention.

PRESIDENT: The statement made in the reply must be accepted.

MR. JOSEPH PANJIKARAN (*Shertallai*): What I want to know is whether any action can be pointed out by Government which will go to show that the matter is still engaging the attention of the Government.

PRESIDENT: The stage probably has not arisen when an announcement could be made about it. When Government say that the matter is engaging their attention, it must be accepted.

MR. JOSEPH PANJIKARAN (*Shertallai*): What I want to know is whether the Government can point out anything which would go to show that the matter is being attended to.

PRESIDENT: The Government cannot yet make a definite announcement.

MR. JOSEPH PANJIKARAN (*Shertallai*): If it is not relevant, I do not ask it.

PRESIDENT: It is not irrelevant; but it is opposed to public policy to admit such a question.

MR. JOSEPH PANJIKARAN (*Shertallai*): Under the rules, does it not arise?

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PRESIDENT: Under the rules, anything opposed to public policy can be disallowed.

MR. JOSEPH PANJIKARAN (*Shertallai*): What I want to know is whether there is any action taken by the Government which would go to show that the matter is still engaging their attention.

PRESIDENT: When the matter has not reached a stage when it is proper to make an announcement, or when Government do not consider it proper to make an announcement, any question in regard to the details of action taken is opposed to public policy.

MR. JOSEPH PANJIKARAN (*Shertallai*): I do not want any description of the action taken. I only want to know whether any action has been taken.

PRESIDENT: It is implied in the answer. Otherwise, Government would not have given the answer they have given.

Arms Rules.

133. MR. T. M. CHIDAMBARATANU PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Tovala*): Will the Government be pleased to state what orders have been passed by them finally on the question of amending the Arms Rules?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The member is referred to the answer to question No. 132.

A Division Assistant and First Class Magistrate for Shertallai.

134. MR. JOSEPH PANJIKARAN (*Shertallai*): (*a*) Do the Government know that the inhabitants of the Shertallai taluk experience very great inconvenience for want of a Division Assistant at Shertallai?

(*b*) Do the Government know that, under the present arrangement, for all criminal cases triable only by a First Class Magistrate and for all criminal appeals, the people of Shertallai have to go to Kottayam crossing the Vembanad lake?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to take some early step for remedying these inconveniences and hardships?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) Government are not aware.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The matter will be examined.

Change of Arayalam Kist Months.

135. MR. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have received the replies of the several Dewan Peishkars on the question of changing the *kist* months?

(*b*) Will they be pleased to dispose of the matter at an early date?

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